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MOROCCO'S CRIME

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COMMENT

MOROCCO'S CRIME

It was like the end of the debate: tragic, cruel and final. To the doomed forty-three struggling in the raging waters of the Mediterranean off the Moorish coast, there had for a long time been no need to argue whether Zionism was a dispensable or necessary scaffolding for Israel. The great debate between Mr. Ben-Gurion and Dr. Goldmann about the function of Zionism in the modern Jewish world was not easily comprehensible to them or to the rest of Morocco's 160,000 Jews. For, to most of them, the existence of Zionism, the presence of Israel and the hope that the one would one day provide them with the means to reach the other, was as essential a part of their lives as was the sun and the air. Without it, the last hope of Moroccan Jewry would have gone.

They had not started that way. They were an old community, one of the oldest. They had become a part of the Moroccan scene, and they had become accustomed to the common discrimination which they suffered, sometimes more and sometimes less. They had hailed with joy the coming of Moroccan independence and the promises of the King and his Governments that, with the liberation of Morocco, would come also the complete liberation of Morocco's Jews from discriminatory restrictions and arbitrary police rule.

* * *

But the promises were not redeemed. The treatment of Morocco's Jews deteriorated steadily, but even then they had to pay a price of silence and condonation. Moroccan Jewry was given clearly to understand by the Moroccan authorities that any public complaint or encouragement of outside intervention by the world Jewish organisations, would be met by severe reprisals against the local community. The new intolerance of the authorities was noted not only by Moroccan Jews, but also by the foreign population there. These often long-established foreign citizens began to pack up and leave in considerable numbers despite the pleas from the Moroccan King and Government.

A great exodus from the country districts was noted. More than half of the thousands of foreigners who had resided, often for generations, in Ouezzane, in Sefrol and in Taza, packed up and left Morocco. The more well-to-do Jews in the professions and in commerce were able to join them; some thousands proceeded to emigrate to France and commence a new life there. But what of the great mass of Morocco's Jews who were not richly endowed with worldly goods—some 160,000 of them?

They became increasingly the target of idle, or jealous, denunciators, and frequently of arbitrary police inter-

vention. They were harried, harassed, suspected and plagued with police supervision and political restrictions. They were not allowed to communicate with their families and friends in Israel, and they were too poor and too helpless to do anything very much for themselves. And, as the pressure on them increased, so did their sense of desperation and their determination to get away—to Israel for preference.

* * *

So they found a Spanish captain and a small crew with an old ship prepared to ferry them across to France, where they would make contact with the Jewish Agency, which would help them on the further stage of their trek to Israel. According to French sources, something like two hundred Jewish men, women and children have made this hazardous run every month in order to get away. And now the foundering of the *Pisces*, with its cargo of lost hope, has spotlighted the condition of Moroccan Jewry for all to see.

But it has done much more than that. It has cast the beam of public opinion also on the state of personal freedom and liberty in independent Morocco. It has shown how the fine phrases and slogans—and promises—which were claimed as the essence of Moroccan independence were little more than sham and deception. When the King and his august guests at the conference of Casablanca denounced Israel and Zionism as the instruments of imperialism and of western capitalism, did they spare a thought for these poor and humble subjects of the Moroccan realm?

* * *

The Moroccans have, in fact, abandoned them and reduced them to a condition where they are compelled to act like thieves in the night if they want to leave the country and join their families, and where they are forced to rely on leaky Spanish launches to carry them to liberty from the shores of independent Morocco. What kind of independence is this? What kind of freedom in this twentieth century?

Only in Morocco is the full weight of the administrative restriction of liberty aimed at the Jews. And now that the tragedy of the forty-three has focussed attention on this shameful policy of the Moroccan administration, the authorities are showing no remorse. On the contrary, they have stepped up their campaign against their Jewish citizens as if these unfortunates had been caught in some conspiracy. Since the days of Moses, the right to go has been the fundamental human freedom, for, without it, all talk of freedom and independence is a sham—a bluffing of democratic society and international morality. The Royal Moroccan government has much to answer for. Its best, and only possible answer, would be to abandon this policy of discrimination against Moroccan Jewry.

POLITICS

ORDER OF SUCCESSION

WHAT HAPPENS IF BEN-GURION DOES RESIGN?

from our special correspondent

Tel Aviv:

The focus of attention shifted last Friday from Jerusalem to the balmy warmth of a perfect Tel Aviv weekend, and with it came the first signs of a more relaxed consideration of the muddled and muddied political situation.

One centre of activity was around Ben-Gurion's home in the Keren Kayemet Boulevard. Every hotel and cafe in the neighbourhood had its huddle of supporters and opponents. A little further north, at the Histadrut building, there was the final hasty shifting of base of operations to the weekend headquarters before the Sabbath silence descended.

Elsewhere, the coalition and opposition parties were also preparing their own consultations. Sunday's Cabinet meeting in Jerusalem (without Ben-Gurion) and the preceding meeting with the President (with Ben-Gurion) appeared almost like an interruption of the Tel Aviv round.

One man unsure: Immediately after noon, the Ministers were hastening back to Tel Aviv—each to his party gathering. That evening I chalked up the score of those who had announced or threatened that they were going to resign, or refuse to serve, under certain conditions. It covered every single Cabinet member except Eshkol and the fortunate Minister of Posts, the Poale Aguda's Benyamin Mintz, who was abroad.

On Friday and Saturday I could find no one who believed that Ben-Gurion would stay on; by Sunday night there were a few who thought he would stay on, and by Monday there was widespread conviction that he would return to office after his vacation. There was only one man who was as yet far from sure about that—Ben-Gurion himself.

But whatever the outcome, the question of succession had been discussed for the first time in terms of practical possibility. The result was not particularly illuminating.

Eshkol's unique position: Almost the obvious choice today as Premier, should Ben-Gurion resign, is Finance Minister Eshkol. He can lay claim to a unique position in Israel. For, although he presides over the Ministry which is the least popular (by definition) in a country of heavy taxes, he probably has fewer per-

sonal enemies than any other leading politician in the country.

But there is one major difficulty in this solution: Eshkol does not want the Premiership and has said so in unmistakable terms. So long as Ben-Gurion is around, Eshkol is happy to be his deputy, but he refuses to rule in Ben-Gurion's place.

Next in order—and in the opinion of many judges the most likely choice—is Moshe Sharett. The general feeling is that Sharett would leave the Ben-Gurion establishment largely unchanged and so contribute to the general calming of the country's "affair" neurosis. I would say that none of the resignation promissory notes would be cashed by the Ministers concerned if Sharett took over.

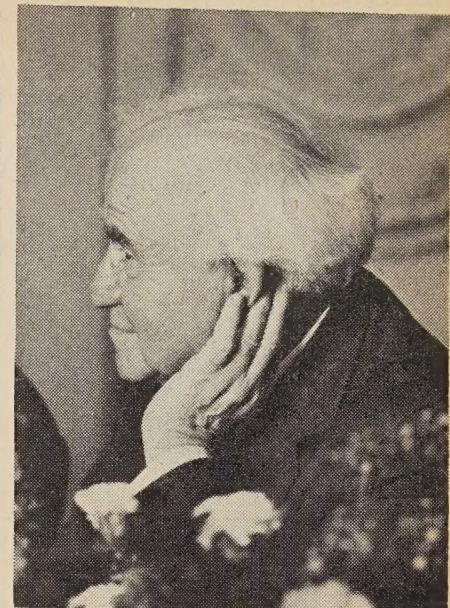
Strong man needed: But there are imponderables here, in authority and in the country, which raise some doubt about this choice of successor. For one thing is worth remembering in this context: that Ben-Gurion is convinced that the country needs a strong Prime Minister able to contend with the conflicting parties and forces.

The real question is not so much the personal ability, but the kind of Premier the country will need after Ben-Gurion. Sharett would make a very able Prime Minister, as one of his friends put it, for the Government. His forte is in the Cabinet room and in the Knesset.

But, if the new Premier must also assume a new image in the eyes of the country, then the choice might well fall on Moshe Dayan. My own guess is that Ben-Gurion's support would go to him. For Dayan shares much of Ben-Gurion's outlook on the current needs of Israeli security and development—the only two touchstones that really count.

Impact of Kennedy: One other name has been mentioned and is regrettably ruled out. For there are few who doubt that, had his health permitted it, this was the moment when Giora Josephthal would have been called to the highest office. He has the temper, the ability and the qualifications the country needs at this time.

So the question remains open, and the likelihood is that the order of succession will not be decided just yet. For Ben-



PRIME MINISTER
A vote for Dayan?

Gurion has some powerful incentives that will make him want to stay.

Now begins the new Kennedy era; Ben-Gurion believes that it will have a great impact on the world. Israel is engaged in revolutionary developments in science, and the new African world is about to assume coherent political postures.

These are momentous questions for Israel which Ben-Gurion is not inclined to hand over to someone else.

DIARY OF "THE AFFAIR"

A FACTUAL RECORD

August: Prime Minister Ben-Gurion instructed the Chief of Staff—on August 28—to appoint a judicial inquiry committee, headed by Supreme Court Justice Haim Cohen, to investigate suspicions cast upon two senior officers in connection with a "security disaster" in 1954.

September: On September 21, Histadrut Secretary-General Pinhas Lavon returned from a ten-week period of convalescence in Switzerland. Five days later—on the 26th—he called on Ben-Gurion to protest that the Cohen committee had been appointed without consultation with him (as Defence Minister in 1954) and to demand that Ben-Gurion publicly clear him of responsibility for the 1954 disaster for which, he alleged, he had been framed. Ben-Gurion pointed out that he had not condemned him and therefore he could not clear him.

October: At the beginning of the



WHAT NEXT?

Mapai stalwarts Idelson, Aranne and Sapir

month, Lavon appeared before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. His case, he said, was not a narrow one based on the merits of the security issue. He had been forced to resign from the Ministry of Defence because of a "political conspiracy" involving Shimon Peres and Moshe Dayan. In rejecting Ben-Gurion's suggestion that he should await the outcome of the Cohen committee inquiry, he stated that a "public and political matter" was involved.

In mid-October, the Cohen committee reported that a senior officer and a reserve officer had been guilty of telling a third man to falsify his evidence before an earlier committee investigating the 1954 disaster. It had not established that any forgeries had been committed.

Moshe Sharett, who was Prime Minister at the time of Lavon's resignation, issued a statement in which he said that, on the basis of the Cohen report, "I am convinced that had the facts now brought to light... been known then, they would have served as weighty evidence that the charges levelled against Pinhas Lavon at that time, accusing him of direct responsibility for a certain event, were false." But, he added, he would still have accepted Lavon's resignation at the time because of the relations that had developed within the Defence Ministry.

Ben-Gurion, dissatisfied with the findings regarding responsibility for the 1954 disaster, urged the establishment of a judicial inquiry committee. Minister of Justice Pinhas Rosen countered with a proposal for establishing a Ministerial committee of inquiry. On October 30, a Ministerial committee was appointed.

November : The Ministerial committee

opened its investigations and the Lavon affair disappeared from the headlines.

December : The Ministerial committee, at the end of seven weeks of deliberations, stated that "on the basis of the material at its disposal, the committee finds that Mr. Lavon did not give the direct order for the 1954 security mishap." It found evidence that certain documents had been falsified. Two days later, a meeting of the Mapai Secretariat passed a majority motion regretting recent public statements by Lavon, including one in which he warned of "the spread of the dangerous philosophy of 'étatisme' among certain circles."

When the Ministerial committee report came before the Cabinet for approval, Ben-Gurion refused to accept it on the grounds that the full truth had not been established and that the committee had not probed deep enough into the background of the affair. But a majority of the Cabinet voted in favour of the report's acceptance. Ben-Gurion stated that he was going on long leave. The press reported that he was contemplating resignation.

January 1 : Moshe Dayan submitted documentary evidence to the Cabinet contradicting claims made before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee by Lavon regarding other security operations during 1954. The Government Secretary said these documents had been accepted as an "amendment" to Lavon's testimony, but that they did not alter the Ministerial committee's conclusions. Lavon said he was amazed by the Government Secretary's statement.

January 2 : Ben-Gurion, in a meeting with Mapai Cabinet Ministers, agreed to withhold his resignation for the time being. Lavon was also reported to be considering resignation, but to be under strong pressure from his friends not to do so.

January 4 : Associates of Lavon met in the office of Mrs. Meir. Party "conciliator" Levi Eshkol was present for part of the meeting. During the day, representatives of various Mapai district and settlement groups called at party headquarters to urge that Ben-Gurion should not proceed with his resignation threat.

January 5 : Mrs. Meir called on President Ben-Zvi.

January 7 : Ben-Gurion returned to Jerusalem from Sde Boker and attended the usual Saturday night Bible circle at his home.

January 9 : Ben-Gurion met with Mapai General Secretary Almogi and later with Eshkol.

January 10 : Ben-Gurion, as Minister of Defence, ordered the dismissal of the senior officer involved in the affair. This followed his receipt of the Attorney General's opinion that there was insufficient evidence to bring the officer to trial.

January 12 : Ben-Gurion appeared before a meeting of the Mapai Central Committee and, in a 5,000 word statement, presented his case against Lavon and charged him with conducting a "holy war" against Mapai and with improper conduct as Defence Minister in 1954. Lavon, in an equally long address, warned the party against probing any further into these affairs. Nothing positive could be gained, he stated. If the party wanted him to resign, then it should say so.

The outcome of the meeting was a decision by the Central Committee "to look into the statements of Mr. Pinhas Lavon, Histadrut Secretary General, before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee in respect of complaints which the 'Affair' has raised in the party." A special committee would be appointed for this purpose. The debate was wound up on the recommendation of Moshe Sharett which was carried by a vote of 129-85. During the debate, Ben-Gurion stated that he would gladly appear before the party to explain anything they wished explaining.

January 14 : Minister of Justice Pinhas Rosen threatened to resign in protest against Ben-Gurion's allegations that the Ministerial committee investigating the affair had been biased. President Ben-Zvi made a personal appeal to Cabinet Ministers to desist from further controversy. Following this, the Mapai Central Committee unanimously adopted a resolution "obliging all party members to refrain forthwith from any publication, declaration or public discussion in connection with the 'affair'."

January 16 : In a personal letter to Pinhas Rosen, Ben-Gurion withdrew his allegation that the Ministerial committee had been "biased." His allegation that the committee's findings represented "half truth and a miscarriage of justice" remained on the record.

January 17 : An extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet was called off at the last moment, following the inability of the coalition parties to agree on their continued participation in the Cabinet. Dr. Rosen was unable to accept the Premier's part retraction of his criticism of the Ministerial committee. The Cabinet agreed to meet in ordinary session next Sunday.

January 18 : Ben-Gurion left for Tiberias to begin his long leave.

ARAB WORLD

MARTYRDOM OF MOROCCAN JEWRY POLICE POUNCE ON "ZIONISTS"

from our own correspondent

Casablanca :

The tragic deaths of 43 Moroccan Jews, drowned when the 27-ton launch in which they were voyaging en route to Israel sank off the Moroccan coast last week, serves to spotlight the misery in which many of the nearly a quarter million Moroccan Jews are living today.

So far, 24 bodies have been recovered—fifteen women, five men and four children. The Jewish community of Tetuan was called on by the authorities to help in identification and burial. It was a task carried through in heavy grief, a grief shared by every Jew in the country.

To their misery has been added a new element—terror. Seeking to make a public demonstration of their ability to prevent further illegal departures from Morocco, the local police have been carrying out a series of arrests. Their captives, they claim, are "Zionists", members of a network promoting illegal immigration to Israel.

Hoped for much : But the evidence is that the arrests have been indiscriminate, their victims chosen at random from among the Jewish communities. Attempts have been made by communal leaders to secure some sort of protection for Morocco's Jews but, with the eyes of the Arab world now on Morocco, and the Government determined to impress, in the wake of the Casablanca conference, as a bastion of "Arabdom", there is cause for much concern.

Morocco's Jews had hoped for much from newly independent Morocco when King Mohammed assumed full powers. He had promised them, and Jewish representatives from abroad, that Moroccan Jewry would have full equality as citizens, including — it appeared — the right to emigrate. And, for a time, it seemed that this right would be upheld.

But, suddenly, the Moroccan authorities clamped down. Exit visas which had once been approved automatically now got held up in the works. Occasionally a small group of Jews was allowed to leave. But, eventually, even this concession was withdrawn. More recently, this has been followed by a complete ban on

the exchange of mail between Morocco and Israel.

"Beaten up" reports : For the many thousands of Moroccan Jews in Israel, this has meant complete separation from their families. Whereas the emigration ban cut off husbands from wives, children from parents and so on, the break in postal communications has meant that news of family events, or just simple messages of affection, can no longer pass between the two countries.

At the same time, there has been evidence of a "turning inward" by some Moroccan Moslems against the Jewish community. There have been repeated—and suppressed—reports of Jews being beaten up, including children and old men. Other reports have told of Jewish girls being kidnapped, to disappear into the harems of wealthy Moroccans.

These were some of the matters raised by a Jewish delegation which called on Crown Prince Moulay Hassan over the weekend. They pleaded with him to take some liberalising measures to improve the conditions of Moroccan Jews and to secure the return of the missing girls to their families. They are understood, however, not to have raised the question of Jewish emigration.

Consul intervenes : Some indication of what the Jewish community is up against is to be seen from the editorial comment of the government daily *Al Alam*, which urged that the Jewish complaints should not be heeded. Jewish leaders who complained, it stated, should be arrested and

charged with sedition and crimes against the State.

There is evidence that attempts are being made to encourage anti-Jewish feeling. Thus, some Moroccan newspapers, at the time of President Nasser's visit, put about reports that the headmaster of a local yeshiva had paraded his students before the Israeli flag.

The headmaster and ten of his students were seized by the police and beaten up. Only the fact that the headmaster was a Swiss citizen and that the Swiss consul intervened saved him from further maltreatment.

Bleak prospect : In circumstances like these, it is not surprising that small groups of Jews make desperate attempts to leave the country, even to the extent of entrusting their lives to vessels inadequate for the task. It is a bleak and terrible prospect that faces Moroccan Jewry at the present time.

CAIRO CELEBRATES A "VICTORY"

PROTECTING THE AFRICAN CONTINENT

from our special Middle East correspondent, Robert Gee

President Nasser's triumphant homecoming from Casablanca at the weekend was quickly followed by an official announcement that Ministers had been ordered to put the Casablanca resolutions into effect.

U.A.R. diplomatic representatives in the participating countries have been instructed to make contact with the gov-



"IMPERIALISM" IN ACTION
Mrs. Meir with African youth leaders studying in Israel

ernments to which they are accredited "with a view to reaching agreement on measures of implementation."

Meanwhile, the U.A.R. propaganda agencies continue to celebrate the "victory" over Israel represented by the resolution condemning Israeli "imperialism." As commentator Mohammed Uruq put it: "The U.A.R., in protecting the north-eastern gate of the African continent, is undoubtedly playing a protective role in the interests of all African peoples. This perceptiveness about Israel is no longer confined to the Arab people."

"Only one enemy": What the U.A.R. had succeeded in doing, he claimed, was to "show the Africans that there is only one enemy facing us, whether in occupied Palestine, in Algeria or in Congo; and that a common danger threatens our independence and future."

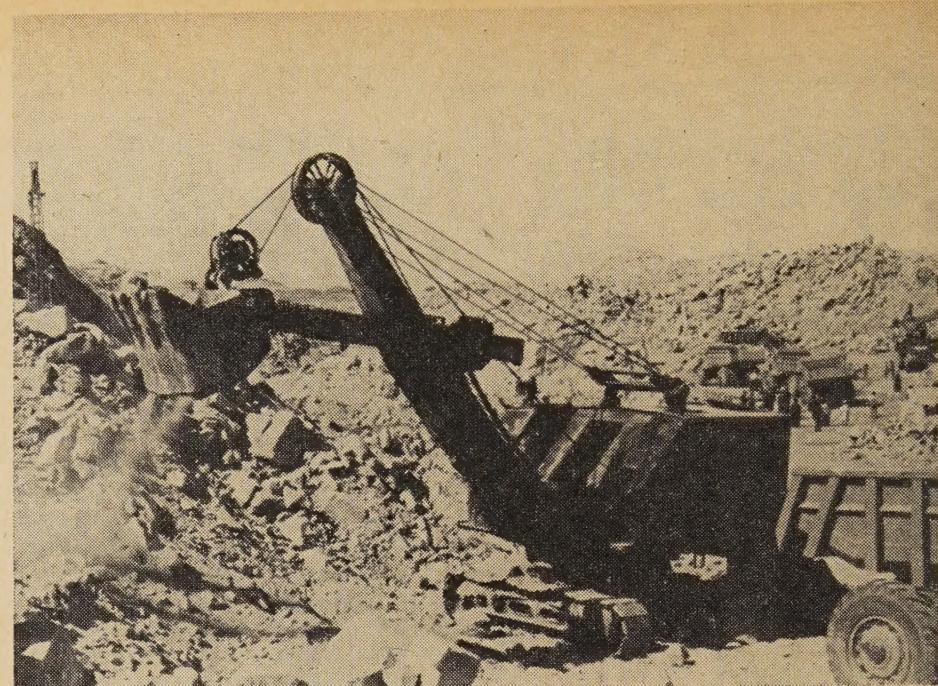
Uruq's comment was broadcast in the external Arabic language service. In the home service, commentators followed the same line. Israel's role in Africa had been "exposed," and Israel had now been recognised as a weapon used by imperialism to obstruct liberation movements in both Africa and Asia."

In an editorial headed "Israel has become an Afro-Asian question," *al Akhbar* stated that: "The big and obvious outcome of the African summit conference was that Israel for the first time has become an African problem instead of just being an Arab problem."

Why the fuss? Reaction in non-participating Arab countries was mixed. In Baghdad, the organ of the National Progressive Party said that the anti-Israel resolution "underlined the point which the Arabs have tried to explain to the African states: that Israel is only a lackey of imperialism and its cats-paw in attempts to infiltrate certain African states economically and politically through financial and technical aid offered by Israel, but which Israel itself received from the big imperialist states."

In Amman, however, newspaper and radio commentators wondered what all the fuss was about. "With regard to Palestine," commented *al Manar*, "we regret to say that the conference resolutions did not introduce anything new into the issue. We were anticipating the adoption of positive and frank resolutions, at least with regard to the return of the refugees or halting Israel's infiltration into Africa . . ."

"The resolutions do not become valuable merely by being published; they become effective when implemented. Therefore, we feel that we should not judge the Casablanca conference until we see the implementation of its resolutions."



RUSSIAN EXCAVATOR AT WORK ON ASWAN PROJECT
Three thousand or four thousand—does it matter between friends?

African criticism: The Tunisians demonstrated their hostility to the conference—to which Bourguiba had not been invited—by quoting critical comments from the Lebanese press.

But the harshest criticism of all came, not from an Arab, but from an African country. A broadcast from Dakar, capital of newly independent Senegal, wondered at a series of resolutions which could condemn apartheid in South Africa but favour discrimination against another Afro-Asian state—Israel. "But here we have a matter directly touching the countries that organised the conference.

"It is always possible to unite people or countries against something, but that is not very constructive. Let us beware lest Casablanca should mark another form of imperialism—even racialism," Dakar warned.

Basis for charter: It is a warning to which Cairo, at any rate, will pay no heed. As far as the local populace knows from its press and radio, the Casablanca resolutions have been welcomed throughout the African continent as "the basis for a new African charter."

ASWAN PROJECT DEFENDED

MINISTER REPLIES TO CRITICS

from our own correspondent

Cairo :

Minister of Public Works Moussa Arafah has issued a statement to counter

"the campaign of suspicions launched against the Aswan Dam project."

Some foreign newspapers, said Arafah, still continued to publish imaginary reports with a view to arousing suspicions about the project. Sometimes they sought to give the impression that the project had undergone radical changes. At others they intimated that it had been replaced by new projects.

In fact, declared the Minister, "the High Dam project is proceeding according to plans and according to schedule. The stages of study have long been completed and there is thus no need to renew the discussions on any aspect of the project . . ."

A symbol: By issuing this statement, Arafah explained, he wished to assure rumour-mongers that the work was in full swing not only to complete the project according to schedule, "but also to double efforts so that all stages can be completed ahead of schedule."

It is just a year since the foundation stone for the high dam was laid at Aswan, and Moscow radio marked the anniversary with a special Arabic broadcast dedicated to "this symbol of Soviet-Arab friendship."

But even the Russians displayed some sensitivity to western criticisms of the project. "The Soviet plan for the construction of the High Dam is the most economical and efficient," Moscow assured its U.A.R. audience. Kaftanov, chairman of the Soviet-Arab Friendship Society, depicted Soviet aid in this project as a massive national undertaking.

"This is the future": "Thousands are now working in factory workshops, laboratories and planning institutes to meet its demands . . . None of them is thinking about making a profit or securing shares, because the Soviet people are free from the commercial spirit; they are giving their help with sincerity and honesty. This is the future of the world, free from wars and weapons, the world which the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.S.R. Government is advocating."

There were a few officials here who thought that the Russians had perhaps overdone it a little, and that they might have allowed the U.A.R. Government a little more credit for initiating the scheme. That there was some lack of co-ordination between the two sides was evident from Moscow's reference to the "4,000 workers" engaged on construction, and Minister Arafah's tribute to the "3,000 workers" employed on the project.

On the purely domestic front, we had a report this week on the progress of the "egyptianisation" (we spell it here with a small "e") of banks, insurance companies and foreign commercial agencies. The process started during the Anglo-French operation in 1956 and is due to be completed in 1962.

Relations with Britain: Central Minister of Economy Abdul Moneim Kaisouny said that as a result of egyprianisation, investments in agriculture, industry and mining had greatly increased. Prior to egyprianisation, he claimed, foreign banks had been dominated by imperialistic influence and attempts to impede industrialisation plans.

"At present Egyptian and egyprianised banks are obviously contributing most effectively in all economic fields as well as in promoting trade and in financing cotton transactions . . . The egyprianisation of banks has also helped to serve the purpose of economic neutrality and to establish the socialist co-operative and democratic society."

There was, however, no mention of "imperialistic influence" during the meeting which took place here on Sunday between Foreign Under-Secretary Mohammed Hafez Ismail and British Chargé d'Affaires Colin Crowe. At last, it seems, a basis has been agreed for a resumption of full diplomatic relations between the two countries, though a British spokesman, drawing on past experience, would say only that the talks "motivated optimism."

Change from Moscow: Apparently, Nasser has agreed that full relations should be resumed on the basis that the U.A.R. will be allowed to open consulates in Liverpool, Freetown, Sierra Leone, Hong Kong and Singapore. Britain



A CHANGE AT NO. 19
Sometimes on Sunday

will have consulates in Alexandria and Damascus. The British Government asked for a couple of days in which to consider the U.A.R. request for a consulate in Kuwait, but no one now expects that this will be allowed to stand in the way of an exchange of ambassadors.

Harold Beeley remains the British choice for Ambassador. The U.A.R. nominee for London is Mohammed el-Kuny, at present Ambassador in Moscow. He will find his transfer chastening.

"HANDS OFF" WARNING TO KENNEDY

SURVIVAL FOR THE FITTEST

America's new President was warned last week to keep out of the Arab-Israel conflict. The warning came from U.A.R. Deputy Foreign Minister Zulficar Sabri, who had been asked in the National Assembly about measures to be taken by the U.A.R. "in respect of the U.S. President-elect's promise to bring pressure to bear on the Arabs to come to terms on the Palestinian issue, and open the Suez Canal to Israeli vessels."

Sabri, in reply, said the American leader overlooked the fact that the Arab peoples consider themselves at war with Israel, and were in constant readiness to

meet all eventualities inherent in the Zionist bastion, which never concealed its expansionist and aggressive intentions.

Kennedy had likewise forgotten the fact that survival was for the fittest, not for the parasite which was born to die. "I would like to make it plain," continued Sabri, "that the efforts the United States contemplate making, in the light of Mr. Kennedy's pledges, are not an innovation, and the pressure the American leader may think he can bring to bear on the Arabs has already been tried by his predecessors, but to no avail."

Turning the tables: Those efforts, said the Minister, had been frustrated, "thanks to our unshaken faith in our right to live and to President Gamal Abdel Nasser's determination, which emanate from the ranks of the entire Arab people from the Arab Gulf to the Atlantic."

These ranks are likely to be in some disarray after the Arab Foreign Ministers' meeting in Baghdad on January 30. Information released in Cairo this week suggests that the U.A.R. is attempting to turn the tables on Jordan, which put the Cairo representative on the spot at a recent Arab League session.

At that meeting, the Jordan representative suggested that if the U.A.R. was so concerned about supplies reaching Israel via the port of Elath, then it could easily put a stop to these supplies by halting the passage of Israel-bound ships through the Gulf of Akaba. The Egyptians countered this by suggesting that it should be a joint operation on the part of all Arabs, and suggested that the Chiefs of Staff of all Arab armies should meet to consider the idea.

The "bomb" again: Nothing more has been heard of this suggestion since the League meeting, but now Cairo has come up with a proposal for the Foreign Ministers that should secure the amount of deadlock necessary to preclude any U.A.R. adventures in the Gulf of Akaba.

Drawing attention to Israeli plans for diverting the waters of the River Jordan, the U.A.R. has proposed collective counter-action. A U.A.R. submission to the Permanent Arab Military Committee has been accepted for discussion by the Foreign Ministers. It is coupled with a U.A.R. complaint that Jordan has boycotted all meetings of the Palestine Committee established last year to draw up proposals for a "Palestine entity."

Other items on the agenda for the Baghdad meeting include a Technical Committee report on "Israel's attempt to obtain the atomic bomb" and relations between Iran and Israel. The likelihood of any of these discussions reaching concrete decisions seems at the moment, very remote.

TOWN AND COUNTRY TROUBLES

KASSEM STRIKES, AND IS STRUCK

from our own correspondent

Baghdad :

A new wave of arrests has just come to an end. The main victims seem to have been members or associates of the proscribed communist party. The charges have been based in nearly all cases on "incitement to strike."

Twenty-two workers from a cigarette factory are now awaiting trial on such charges. Seventy-six cement factory workers have already been given sentences ranging from six months to two years. Thirteen secondary school children have been held on charges that they "conducted a demonstration against the regime."

With the right-wing nationalists testing their new strength and the communists prepared to do battle for their disintegrating positions, Kassem obviously thought it was time to step in and call a halt before we had a return to the near-civil war conditions of last year, echoes of which are still uncomfortably loud.

Peasants' criticisms : Simultaneously with the police crack-down in troubled areas, Kassem produced his bait: if the country remained "quiet and stable," he would soon issue the orders for the constitution of a National Assembly and the drafting of a permanent constitution (by whom?).

His carrot, unfortunately, is a mouldy one, and there seems little inclination, either on the left or right, to bite. It has been proffered before—and then locked away in the cupboard for another occasion. The same thing will probably happen again.

Carrots—or at least the land for growing them on—is causing Kassem trouble in another sphere. He turned up on Saturday for a meeting of the Iraq Peasants' Association which was discussing the agrarian reform law. He came expecting to be hailed as the great liberator. He was, but coupled with the salutations were some of the most outspoken criticisms we have yet heard of the way in which agriculture is being allowed to run downhill.

"Opportunist currents" : They came from Arraf as-Zikam, President of the Federation of Peasants' Associations, who deserves praise, if only for his fearlessness. There were great and good plans for improving the lot of the peasants, agreed Zikam, but there were still those elements



WHAT GOOD IS A FIELD WITHOUT WATER?
Harsh words for Iraq's leader—the rot runs deep

at work which wanted to take Iraq "back to the era of feudalism and imperialism."

To underrate their menace, he warned, would result in the gravest injuries to the peasants, the people and the revolution. The application of the agrarian reform law, he complained, had "met some obstacles as a result of opportunist currents which became evident after the revolution, and which took control of certain sensitive centres in the State's machinery, and the agrarian reform machinery in particular."

The great round of applause which greeted this statement visibly shocked Kassem, but Zikam, once started, and with the mass of the audience obviously with him, took the plunge and went on. The peasants were willing to make sacrifices to put through the reform law, but this called for mutual collaboration on the part of the "State administrative organisations."

Land without water : What the peasants demanded was the creation of sound, impartial and co-ordinated machinery which would be in conformity with the revolution's objectives. There was need for a complete review of the government machinery dealing with agriculture and the establishment of strong control.

For example, said Zikam, certain officials in the agrarian reform administration were passive toward the law itself. Quite naturally, this sort of attitude only served to increase the problems and spread grumbling and despair within peasant ranks.

Contracts for the sale of land had been concluded with people who were not only

not peasants, but also lived miles from the areas concerned. There were tens of pumping stations which were not functioning. Drainage ditches had not been cleared. There was no point in allocating land to needy peasants if there was no water available with which they might irrigate it.

A new moral : And finally, Zikam told Kassem, the peasants were being treated "in a manner which will not please you at all. There are certain local officials who still treat the peasant with a spirit contrary to the glorious values and principles of the revolution." It would take pages and hours to detail all their pains, but he hoped that Kassem would take concrete action to deal with the main ones he had listed.

The "sole leader" was, for once, almost at a loss for words. He mumbled some half-distinct reply. Anyone who molested peasants "with dubious intent" would be brought to book. Of course, there were those who encroached upon peasant rights with good intent. "You and we will pardon them." But the others, the vindictive ones, would be punished.

He seemed sincere in his interest and the gathering saw him on his way with a great round of applause and cheers—but, lest he forget, they later submitted a series of resolutions setting out in detail Zikam's complaints.

These he has promised to study. In the meantime, local observers point a new moral for Kassem, caught between the upheavals of the city and the discontent of the countryside. It is simple and to the point. It says: Only donkeys take old carrots.

PARASHA IN THE NEWS

ON HAVING AN AFFAIR

IT SOUNDS LIKE LIVING IN SIN. For two weeks, day and night, I have lived with "the parasha", in fact with three distinct "parashot". No matter what language you speak here—and the range is considerable—no one speaks of the "Lavon affair" or even just of the "affair"; it is always "the parasha". But instead of emphasising the last syllable, as one would in Hebrew, people drop their voice as if they were uttering a dirty word. And to a majority, probably, it has become a dirty word, which means, as any student of colloquial conversation knows, that it is in almost constant use. You just cannot get away from "the parasha".

It has completely changed the rhythm of Israeli conversation. The first words in almost every meeting on all levels used to be "Mah nishmah?" (What's new?). But as the affair progressed and the public became increasingly concerned and distressed, they became much less interested, much less anxious to know what was new. What worried people much more was where all this would lead to, and so now the opening gambit of most intelligent conversation is no longer "Mah nishmah?" but, "What is going to happen?"

PUBLIC AS MEDIATOR

The public reaction to the development of "the parasha" and to its principal participants is almost worthy of a nationwide psychoanalysis. For it presents an almost unique example of the strange sense of Jewish solidarity in the Diaspora, which becomes desperate to avoid any Jewish scandal.

And now suddenly you have this. The outstanding personalities in Israeli life are accusing each other of extreme political misbehaviour and of improper personal aspirations. The politicians split into two camps. The political parties took sides. The press adopted an almost unexampled and extreme partisan position (with one or two exceptions). But the public did not follow suit. It watched with growing concern, but decreasing interest, as "the parasha" of 1954 became "the parasha" of 1960, and especially when "the parasha" of 1961 made its quite distinct appearance last week. The public concern grew almost into disgust and an active desire not to hear any



ROSEN

His stature has grown enormously

more about it—no matter who was right or wrong. They did not want these differences aired in public.

JOSEPHUS OR LAVON?

In one sense this was a healthy and encouraging sign of fundamental public unity. This was not another repetition of the tragic picture of Jerusalem described by Josephus, when the factions fought each other inside the gates while the enemy prepared his assault from the outside. But the same concern was not displayed by the faction leaders. As one Mapai minister put it to me: "The non-Mapai parties would have to be almost superhuman in their charity, if they did not seek to exploit Mapai's distress for their own ends—which they never have any difficulty in identifying with the national interest." Probably the only man who has been genuinely identified with the public mood, and who is accepted by the broad public as the only non-partisan politician, is Pinhas Rosen, the Minister of Justice. His stature has grown enormously.

The position has now become still

more complicated and the public still more confused by Lavon's brilliant tactical handling of the situation. With calculated shrewdness, and the support of the major part of the opposition press, he has managed during the last few days to present himself to the public as the spokesman of this public concern and of the desire to drop the whole business. Thus, he walked into the Mapai central committee meeting last Thursday just as Ben-Gurion began to denounce him in the strongest terms. And his meticulously prepared "spontaneous" rejoinder sought to play on the feeling of the delegates not to pursue this suicidal conflict.

TALMON'S INTERVENTION

In this approach, Lavon displayed a much greater appreciation of the mood of the country, and of the Mapai membership, than had Ben-Gurion and his supporters—especially in the press. This is perhaps not surprising, since they had to face a powerful coalition of opinion which had much greater fire power than Ben-Gurion's side and was much better organised to make its impact on an already receptive public opinion. For the opposition to Ben-Gurion had increasingly changed the entire image of the nature of "the parasha". From a distinct dispute about one single event in 1954, the opposition had turned it into an accusation that Ben-Gurion and the defence establishment had conspired to remove Lavon from high office and had generally acted in a wholly undemocratic fashion. And the campaign was not without considerable effect.

And the more confused the general debate became, the more effective became this line of anti-Ben-Gurion propaganda. Not only Lavon made use of it: even members of the Cabinet like Ben-Aharon of Ahdut Avodah did so. The whole opposition joined in, and so did a group of Hebrew University professors last week. Their arguments were muddled, their connections with the affair mixed, but their concern was undoubtedly genuine. But Ben-Gurion's supporters did not see that. They brushed off the intervention in cavalier fashion as un-

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worthy of serious consideration. And this gave rise to an impressive and moving letter in Sunday's *Jerusalem Post* from Professor Jacob Talmon, one of the signatories of the manifesto of the intellectuals.

THE WEEKEND AWAKENING

Had Talmon's letter appeared in the middle of last week, it would have been the subject of great controversy. But when it was printed on Sunday morning it somehow reflected the new national mood. For a great awakening had taken place over the weekend. As the politicians, party leaders and Histadrut officials returned to their homes for the Sabbath, they, for the first time, came under the impact of the full force of public opinion, ranging from the younger members of their families to their neighbours and friends. It made a profound impact, especially on Mapai. Thus, already by Saturday evening, one could sense the wind of change blowing hard.

The President's summons to Ben-Gurion and six of the seven Ministers who drafted the controversial ministerial report was the first symptom. The almost mollified attitude of the non-Mapai ministers at Sunday morning's Cabinet, which was reinforced by Rosen's insistence that Cabinet members should place their resignation in Ben-Gurion's hands so that he could decide whether he had confidence in them or not, added to this new reasonableness. And the resumed meeting of the Mapai central committee on Sunday afternoon completed the process of covering up, if not actually burying, the main bone of con-



PROFESSOR TALMON
Reflecting a new national mood—but something was overlooked

tention. They decided that party members should not make any more public statements about "the affair", and that a committee should be set up to examine Lavon's statements to the Knesset security committee and other developments, and they hoped that when the committee reported by February 1, Ben-Gurion would stay on as Premier.

PREMATURE RELIEF?

In this almost universal sigh of relief in Mapai and outside in the country, something seems to have been forgotten by almost everyone except Ben-Gurion.

And that is his detailed statement to the Mapai Central Committee last Thursday. This was no casual document in a personal dispute between Ben-Gurion and Lavon. It was no accident or gimmick that made Ben-Gurion head his manuscript "Truth comes first." Ben-Gurion has not—unlike the optimists in Mapai and the country, which means almost everyone—forgotten what he said there. As far as he was concerned, this was not a round in a continuing debate; it was a profoundly important revelation of which the country will have to take note.

To Ben-Gurion it constituted the essence of honest democracy. He cannot understand how the party leaders and the country could treat so calmly his accusations that Lavon had allegedly deceived the Cabinet of which he was a member, had allegedly uttered calculated untruths and had allegedly endeavoured to involve the Israel defence forces in adventurous policies when he was Minister of Defence. The point which has been completely lost in the country—and by Professor Talmon—but which seemed so self-evident to Ben-Gurion is that if his accusations are correct then Lavon surely cannot continue in a position of trust and responsibility in the State.

THE NEW PARASHA

This new issue is in fact much greater than any of those which gave rise to the Lavon affair. After what Ben-Gurion has said about Lavon he cannot continue in leadership so long as Lavon remains in high office—unless the charges are proved to be false. And, since Lavon and his friends in Mapai, and in other parties, claim that there exists a caucus comprising Ben-Gurion, Dayan, Peres and the army chiefs, which takes decisions outside the Cabinet against the interest of the country, they must also either withdraw the charge or prove it.

Both these are serious matters, which have not been settled by the President's intervention or the party resolution. They will in fact have to be answered by the Mapai committee which is to examine the situation by February 1, or "the parasha" will then explode once more with still greater violence. The big question before the country now is whether it can concentrate on the essence of this crisis, deal with it frankly, and thus solve it. Avoiding the issue, in my opinion, will in this case do more harm than good. Sedatives have their uses, but they are no substitute for surgery.

Jon Kimche

ISRAEL

DEVELOPMENT BUDGET SHOWS OPTIMISM

EMPHASIS ON TRANSPORT, HOUSING, TOURISM

from Yohanan Ramati

Jerusalem :

The increase in the development budget presented by Mr. Eshkol for the financial year 1961/62 is more apparent than real. On paper, there would appear to be an expansion from £602 million to £640 million, but the "Debt Redemption" item on the expenditure side has grown by £25½ million (it is now the largest in the budget) and a revolving fund of £15 million has been established to avoid financing difficulties, so the actual amount to be spent on development in the various sectors is only slightly larger than last year.

That it is larger at all is due to the fact that in 1960/61 just over £20 million were spent on drought relief, although this cannot be regarded as "development" in the strict sense of the word. There is no provision for drought relief this time.

Housing expenditure has again increased substantially. The total amount to be spent under this head will be £117 million—£30 million more than in 1960/61.

More for Jordan project : Of this sum, about £53.7 million is for immigrant housing, and a further £18 million for housing persons from transit camps due to be wound up. Housing projects for people affected by slum clearance activities will receive £9 million, and housing in rural areas £14.9 million.

Then there are £5.3 million for housing schemes in development areas and £1 million for housing schemes for Arabs. The remaining £16 million will be spent mainly for building in the cities.

Agriculture receives about £105 million—less than last year. On the other hand, the amount allocated to the Jordan water project has been increased from £32 million to £43 million, and it may be expected that the first stage of this project will be completed by 1964, if not

earlier. A further £69 million will have to be invested in it during 1962/3 and 1963/4.

Millions for metal : Other irrigation projects, both regional and local, figure largely in the development budget for agriculture, which also includes £40 million in loans to the Jewish Agency for the consolidation of new settlements, and nearly £15 million for agricultural housing.

Of the £70 million loans to industry, £20 million represent an investment in the preference shares of the Industrial Development Bank Ltd. The metal industry will receive loans totalling £17½ million; the textile industry some £7 million; chemicals, rubber plastics, building materials, glass and ceramics about £9.4 million; the food industry £5 million, and the printing, paper and wood industries about £1.6 million.

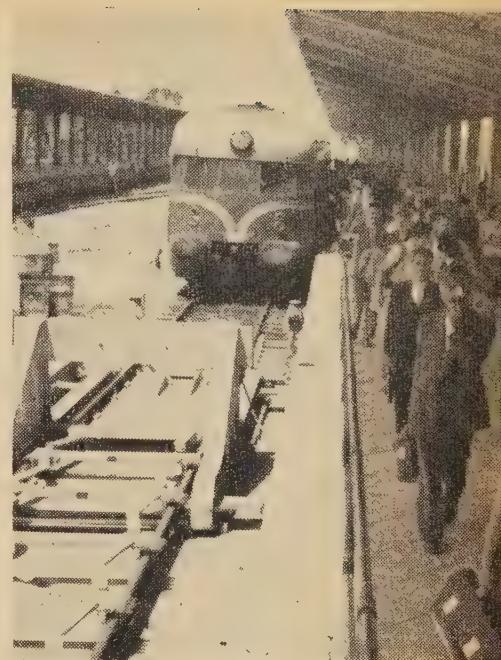
There is a big and important increase in the allocation to transport—from £36.6 million to £67 million, of which £22 million are earmarked for purchases of ships under the German reparations agreement.

Port improvements : But the most interesting allocation is £13 million for the beginning of construction at the new deep-water Ashdod harbour. A further £4.3 million are being invested in improvements in Haifa port, including a lengthening of the main quay, while £345,000 are allocated to Elath, where capacity will be increased.

Investment in Israel Railways will exceed £2 million; £600,000 will be spent on new wagons and a further £600,000 on new diesel locomotives. Over £7 million are being allocated for the construction of a dock in Kishon harbour.

Other allocations include £20 million for the development of postal and telephone services, another £20 million for the tourist and allied industries (including £13.9 million worth of loans to hotels), £5 million for road construction, about £9.4 million in loans to local authorities, £3 million for oil pipelines and oil drilling, £18 million for mines and quarries and £8 million for electric power. £10 million is earmarked for the redemption of Development and Independence Bonds by tourists, investors and others.

Safe income : On the revenue side, the approach seems somewhat optimistic in some particulars. Finance Minister



A LOT MORE FOR TRANSPORT
Railway modernisation speeds ahead

Levi Eshkol expects to get £144 million as counterpart of foreign loans, £72 million as counterpart of German reparations, and £82 million in counterpart funds of the U.S. grant-in-aid and agricultural surpluses.

Revenue from internal bond issues has been marked down to £85 million, and even this may depend on the capacity of the debenture market to absorb additional Government securities on such a scale.

Another income which cannot be regarded as safe in future years (though in 1961/62 it should be forthcoming) is the £65 million from the National Insurance Institute. The Institute may find itself short of funds when it has to start paying out large sums in old age pensions during the middle nineteen-sixties. Other smaller items include £15 million in short-term loans, and £23 million from the War Risk Insurance (Arnona) Fund.

Less for industry : Taken as a whole, the Development Budget indicates an intensification of investment in transport, tourism and housing, while less than last year is being invested in agriculture and industry. It must be hoped that, for this last, private capital will more than make up the gap, for industrial development remains the main means of achieving economic independence.

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THE SAHAR TRAGEDY

"GUILTY" VERDICT THREE YEARS LATER

from our own correspondent

Tel Aviv :

Although the "Lavon affair" has been making the big headlines here, what might be termed the Sahar tragedy has also been on the front pages this week.

It all started in 1955, only a year or so after the "security mishap" everyone is still talking about. *Shurat Hamitnadvim* (Line of Volunteers), a self-styled "vigilante" organisation, published a pamphlet called "Danger Lurks Within". The pamphlet contained various allegations against Amos Ben-Gurion, son of the Prime Minister and at that time a police District Inspector.

The Mitnadvim claimed in their pamphlet that Ben-Gurion had been associating with Yeshayahu Yarkoni, whom they termed a "known swindler," and that a criminal file against Yarkoni had been closed by Amos Ben-Gurion. Yarkoni, together with three other men, had previously been investigated for alleged misappropriation of Jewish Agency funds in connection with IRSO (Jewish Restitution

Successor Organisation).

Damages and costs : Amos Ben-Gurion brought a suit for libel against *Shurat Hamitnadvim* in the District Court, which dismissed the defence that the allegations in the pamphlet were true, and awarded Amos Ben-Gurion damages of £5,300 and £2,000 costs. One of Ben-Gurion's chief witnesses at the trial in 1957 was Yehezkel Sahar, who was, at the time, Inspector-General of Police.

Not only did Sahar testify that Yarkoni had not been a suspect in the matter of the IRSO money, but he made strenuous efforts to have the entire file classified as privileged, so that it should not be produced in court as evidence. He was unsuccessful in this, and the file was produced.

Sahar subsequently resigned from the police and joined the Israel Foreign Office, being appointed Ambassador in Vienna. As far as he was concerned, he may well have thought that the matter was closed. But an unpleasant surprise was in store for him.

Allegations true : The "vigilantes" appealed the District Court decision to the Supreme Court and had their appeal upheld. In a 75-page judgement handed down last June, the Supreme Court declared that some of the original statements in the *Shurat Hamitnadvim* pamphlet were true.



JUSTICE AGRANAT
The bombshell explodes

Although the Court cleared Amos Ben-Gurion of having closed the IRSO file, it found that the file had been "improperly closed by the police". Ben-Gurion's friendship with Yarkoni "after the commencement of the suit, when it was clear that he had been under suspicion", was censured by the Court, and the original damages (£5,300) and costs (£2,000) were reduced to £1,100 and £500.

Turning to Yehezkel Sahar, the Court criticised him for trying to obtain a decision that the IRSO file was privileged, and made scathing comments on his behaviour. Then came the bombshell. Judges Landau, Witkon and Agranat found unanimously that Sahar had perjured himself during the District Court hearing in 1957.

Suspended sentence : As soon as he heard this, Sahar asked for leave of absence from his ambassadorial post and demanded that he be tried for perjury, in order that his name be cleared. The trial was held in Tel Aviv District Court before Judges Kennet (President of the Court), Zundelevitch and Many.

Last Sunday, the Court gave its verdict—Guilty. The punishment for such an offence should be prison, the Court's judgement declared, but in view of the fact that the verdict had wrecked Sahar's public standing and good name, he would be given a two-year suspended sentence and fined £15,000.

Leave to appeal has been granted, but meanwhile the career of a man who had given his whole life to the State and had once been Weizmann's political secretary, has ended in tragic ruin—tragic because, in a way, Sahar's fall was the result of his good nature and strong sense of loyalty.

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ANTI-JEWISH BIAS? "RUBBISH"—MOSCOW

QUOTES STATISTICS TO PROVE EQUALITY

Moscow radio last week went to great lengths to establish for its North American listeners that there was no anti-Jewish discrimination in the Soviet Union and that the same opportunities were open to Jews as to the rest of the Russian population.

Moscow's comments were in response to an unnamed listener who asked: "Is there any discrimination against Jews wishing to attain high positions in the Government?"

Unfortunately, remarked the Russian commentator, people in the U.S. were very badly informed about the Soviet Union. There were, in fact, Jews in the Supreme Soviet. For example, Academician Mitin, editor-in-chief of the magazine "Problems of Philosophy," was a member.

An army general: So, too, was Academician Yuriy Khariton. The Minister in charge of all capital construction, Dymshits, was a Jew—he was also in charge of the construction of the famous Bhilai metallurgical plant in India.

"So you see," observed the commentator, "we have a Minister who is a Jew in the Soviet Union. And we have an army general who is a Jew, General Kreyzer."

There were also many Jews working in the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the Moscow broadcast stated. Prominent Jewish names were also to be found among Russia's aviation designers.

One of the two men responsible for the design of the Mig jet aircraft, Gurevich, was Jewish. "And another famous Soviet aviation constructor, Lovuchkin, is also a Jew by nationality."

Share in the U-2: In fact, using the statistical annual of 1959 and going on the basis of nationality, Jews occupied second place after Russians among scientific workers. "And then we are told we are discriminating against the Jews," observed the Moscow broadcaster rather tartly.

"If you thumb through any daily newspaper in the Soviet Union you will find very many Jewish names among the top executives, among movie directors, in the army—in fact, there were several Jewish names I remember among the soldiers and officers of the anti-aircraft defence who shot down the notorious U-2 . . ."

Jews, of course, belonged to the Communist Party, the commentator continued. It was not a matter of whether they were Jewish, Ukrainian, Azerbaijani, or anything else. "I think there are just as many Jewish members in the Communist Party as there are of any other nationality, that is, in proportion to the number of Jews in the Soviet Union."

150 synagogues: There was a second question: "Is there freedom for the Jews to worship as they please at their synagogue?" This was Moscow radio's reply:

"In the Soviet Union everyone is free to practise any faith he wishes, or not to recognise any faith . . . The Church in the U.S.S.R. is separated from the State, and the schools from the Church. We have no privileged churches. So it is obvious that we do not teach religion in the schools.

"But for those who are religious, there are synagogues in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Odessa, Minsk, Vilnius, Vinnitsa, (*there followed two names that were indistinct*), Lvov, Zhitomir, Kherson, Tiflis, Tashkent, Riga, Nikolayev, Birobidjan and elsewhere; in fact, there are one hundred and fifty synagogues functioning in the U.S.S.R., and any religious Jew is absolutely free to perform his religious rites."

Yiddish stronghold: On the basis of the 1959 census figures, said Moscow radio, there were 2,268,000 Jews in the Soviet Union,* and of these 20.8 per cent professed Yiddish (the commentator said "Jewish") as their native tongue.

Jewish children attended the same schools as non-Jewish children. "There is absolutely no segregation against any nationality here."

For instance, the student body at Moscow University was composed of something like sixty nationalities, and Jews were to be found in the mechanical and mathematical departments, in the physics, biological, philological, geological, journalistic, chemistry, history and all other departments.

At the Lenin normal college in Moscow, which had a student enrollment of 3,269 comprising 30 nationalities there were 323 Jews, or about 10 per cent. "And you will find Jewish children sitting side by side with children of all nationalities in schools all over the Soviet Union."

"Judaism on the decline": "In fact, the friendship among the people of the U.S.S.R. has stood the test of time and it

has very many good traditions. It was a wonderful motive force of the development of our society. The only school where you will find only Jews is the religious school. I know there is a yeshiva in Moscow . . ."

To a question asking whether Judaism was growing or whether it was declining, "like other religions in the Soviet Union," the commentator replied: "I don't have a figure for that, but I do know that Judaism and all other religions are on the decline here in the Soviet Union. I also think that there are ever fewer people who believe in God, because enormous masses are beginning to appreciate the fact that life is material."

The last question to win an answer from Moscow asked whether the waning importance of religion caused a lessening of bigotry and religious strife. The Soviet broadcaster had a simple answer: "Under Soviet power, there never was any religious strife, and there isn't any. An end was put to that by the 1917 Socialist Revolution . . ."

"Free development of minorities": "The declaration of the rights of the people of Russia, published on November 16, 1917, proclaimed the equality and sovereignty of the peoples of Russia, the right of nations to self-determination, up to secession from the Union and the formation of an independent State, the annulment of all and every national and religious privilege and limitation, the free development of national minorities and ethnic groups inhabiting the territory of the U.S.S.R."

"And the declaration, which I just quoted, is not a piece of paper. It is something that has been put into practice in the Soviet Union, and it is one of the things that we in the U.S.S.R. are exceedingly proud of."



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* The number of Jews who volunteered their nationality as "Jewish" to the official census takers. There are an estimated three-quarters of a million more who—for their own reasons—prefer not to identify themselves as Jewish.

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GERMAN ANTI-SEMITISM NOT DEAD

U.N. REPORT DESCRIBES NEO-NAZI ACTIVITIES

from our own correspondent

New York :

"Juden raus" (Jews get out) said the slogan daubed in paint on the Cologne synagogue walls, and to emphasise their anti-Jewish feelings the daubers had added some swastikas.

Newspapers throughout the world found the incident worthy of headline treatment, particularly since it had taken place at Christmastime. By the beginning of 1960, reports began coming in of similar daubings, damage and threats in countries throughout the world.

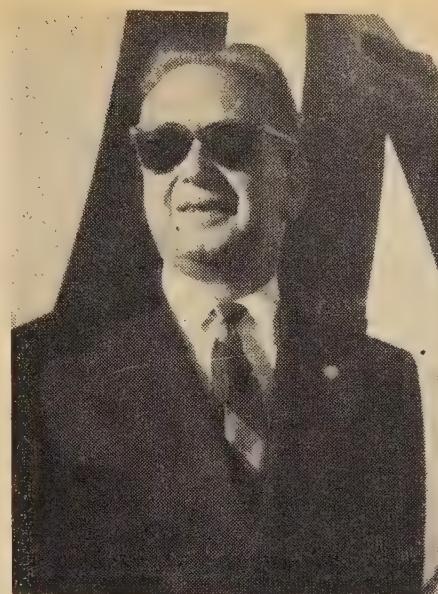
Many people—and responsible bodies—regarded the outbreaks as unconnected and unco-ordinated. Others, equally responsible, thought that they saw a guiding hand behind the rash of slogans and swastikas.

Need for alertness : As the months went by, the daubings dwindled and the headlines grew smaller, until the entire matter was no longer news. But the controversy and the probings went on. Last week, no less a body than the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities raised the matter again.

U.N. Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold and his expert advisers had prepared a report on anti-Semitic and other, similar racial and religious intolerance. Although other instances of such intolerance were quoted, the document dealt mainly with the anti-Jewish incidents of last year.

Hammarskjold accused the Germans of conspiring to hide and suppress their Nazi past. There was a need, the U.N. Secretary General's report declared, "to alert the rising generations to the nature and dangers of anti-Semitism." In Germany, however, "coalitions of interests concerted to conceal the past for many years, hampered and nullified any stock-taking of this kind."

Considerable revision : "The (Nazis') systematic massacres of Jews remained largely unknown," continued the report, emphasising the little-known fact that one third of the men and women who are schoolteachers in Federal Germany today, did the same job in Hitler's Third Reich.



HAMMARSKJOLD
A conspiracy of suppression

Some textbooks "do not completely ignore the crimes of the Hitler regime, but cover the subject inadequately . . . Until very recently, no school book dealt with the problem in sufficiently clear and comprehensive terms," the report continued, underscoring Germany's long tradition of anti-Semitism by its sober acknowledgement that, "in order to do so (i.e. deal adequately with Nazi crimes) it would be necessary to analyse the underlying causes of anti-Semitism which, for the German historian, would have entailed a considerable revision of the traditional school material."

"Whitewashing Nazism" : Evidence was not lacking to prove the contention that "in Germany various quarters are concerned to whitewash the Nazi past." Germans are avid readers of the memoirs of prominent Nazis. Many readers "see the Third Reich as an era of great achievements and great hopes, brought to nothing by the Führer's tactical errors."

But what the report calls "passive Nazism" is not all. "There is a specialised, frankly Nazi and anti-Semitic literature being circulated on an increasing scale."

This sort of thing is not confined to Germany. Einar Aberg heads "what is in fact an anti-Semitic propaganda agency" in Hammarskjold's homeland, Sweden. There are a number of right-wing publications in France "keeping up the pre-war anti-Semitic tradition," and there are also propaganda centres in the U.S., with branches in Latin America.

No co-ordination : But the biggest menace seems to be Germany. Young people are the target of no fewer than seven organisations led by former active Nazis and the neo-Nazi Bund Deutscher

Studenten (German Students' Association). These anti-Semitic organisations have an adolescent membership of between 50,000 and 100,000.

The theory that the 1959 and 1960 outbreaks were a concerted effort on a worldwide scale was discounted by the U.N. report.

Psychologists and sociologists are quoted as believing that the incidents, "most of which were the work of very young people" (almost all the daubers arrested in the U.S. were under 21) "are the expression of latent frustration and resentment," due to their "basic uncertainty, the erosion of traditional moral values, and the absence of any ideology capable of . . . giving a purpose to life."

"Rebels without a cause" : The study summed up the reasons why youngsters should have turned to anti-Semitism as being gestures of defiance, "symbolised by the swastika, which is associated with images of cruelty and violence. The defiance of humanitarian feeling implicit in Nazi anti-Semitism undoubtedly has an attraction for rebels without a cause who wish to place themselves above conventional sentiments and who revolt against their society's values without creating new ones."

In suggesting what might be done to combat prejudice, the report states: "In a sense it would have been better if the incidents had been provoked by openly anti-Semitic groups and had not been so general in character." Most of the proposals Hammarskjold makes for combatting racial prejudice seem to be just as general.

Among the steps advocated are the enlisting of the natural and social sciences in order to destroy the stereotypes on which racism is founded, and the stating of all

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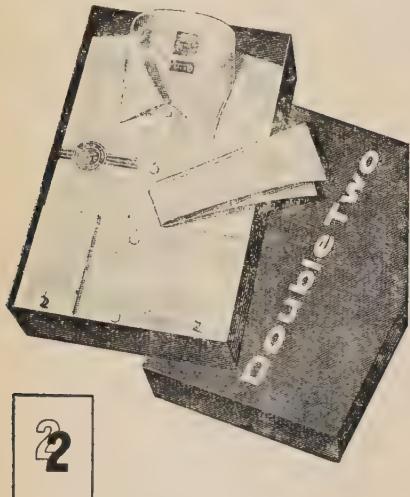
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UNDER THE PERSONAL DIRECTION OF
MR. LOUIS M. SAMUEL

the facts by teachers in order to refute racist myths.

"Only individuals involved": West Germans were not slow to seize on the report's conclusion that last year's incidents were not guided by the same hand. At almost the same moment as the Hammarskjold document was being circulated, West Germany's U.N. observer put out a communication emphasising his Government's view that last year's outbursts could not "be considered as organised and planned actions . . . In practically all cases only individuals were involved who acted on their own."

This may well be what official circles in Bonn believe. On the other hand, there is the U.N. evidence about the activities of neo-Nazi organisations in Germany. In any case, dismissing what had happened and explaining it away did nothing to attack the root causes.



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ZIONISM

BRITISH DELEGATES REPORT ON CONGRESS

NO BETTER—NO WORSE

from the Jewish Affairs reporter

Too much politicking and lobbying and not enough togetherness. This was the essence of the British Zionist Federation delegates' report on the 25th Zionist Congress in Jerusalem, which they delivered at the Adolph Tuck Hall, London, last Monday.

Barnett Janner, M.P., who presided, declared that, in his opinion, the Congress had been a "good Congress." There was an unwholesome, large-scale intrusion of party squabbles among the delegates, too much edging for places and battling for concessions by the various delegations and factions within the delegations, but the main object of the Congress had been achieved: delegations from various countries had held many meetings together, thrashed out numerous problems and gained from each other's experience.

Said Janner: "The delegation representing our Federation was, one can say without boasting, an example to the other delegations at Congress in the harmonious way we carried out our work. Moreover, the steps we have taken during the past years in the fields of immigration and education received unanimous acclaim. They discussed things we have been doing for years and they came to us to learn."

"Many good things": Highlights of the Congress for Janner were that Ben-Gurion and Goldmann sank their differences for the occasion, the admirable fashion in which Moshe Sharett handled the role of co-chairman and the general acceptance by the Congress of British views. He only felt sorrow at the fact that the delegations could not cast aside party differences, choose the men appropriate for the jobs on personal merit, and that they could not collaborate and were afraid to accept "collective responsibility," as suggested by Goldmann.

Concluded Janner: "This Congress was no better and no worse than previous Congresses, and it has demonstrated beyond all doubt that the Zionist movement is essential for the future of Jewish communities throughout the world. But Zionism must be fully supported by the communities in the future as it has been in the past."

Donald Silk prefaced his remarks on the Congress with a tribute to Barnett Janner and congratulated him on receiving a "well-deserved knighthood." There was much in the press about the sensational aspects of the Congress, the smoke-filled rooms and the lobbying, stated Silk, but there were many good things about the Congress.

Far-reaching resolutions: It demonstrated beyond all doubt that there existed in Israel a tremendous interest in Zionism, contrary to all reports one heard on that subject in this country. More than 12,000 applications for the three thousand seats available in the hall were made by Israelis.

Silk believed that the idea of a "wall-to-wall Executive" was doomed from the start because of the rigid attitude of the factions, within the delegations. But, he thought, there was a sound basis on which a coalition could have been built. If a coalition had been formed of only three parties then the others would soon have jumped on the band-wagon.

Silk declared that many important and far-reaching resolutions had been passed on training Jewish youth for farm work, Jewish education and immigration. However, the speaker said, they were not worth the paper they were written on unless they were implemented. In order that they be implemented, communities must realise the value of rallying behind their respective Zionist movements.

Shocked: Miss Bertha Gudansky, an executive member of the Federation of Women Zionists, said that, belonging for so long to an apolitical organisation, she had been shocked by the squabbles and intrigues which took place in Jerusalem. Time had been wasted on this, and debates were deflected from more important subjects such as education and immigration. Somehow, though, discussions had taken place on those subjects.

The speaker had been disappointed not to see more younger representatives on the platform and in the body of the audience. She believed that all delegations had come away from the Congress with the same idea—the Zionist movement throughout the world was growing, and Congress reflected this by its alertness and healthy appearance.

Delegates to the Congress, reported Harold Miller, Poale Zion chairman, heard during their three weeks in Jerusalem something like 250 speeches. It would take some time, and a re-reading of many of the speeches, fully to appreciate and absorb all that had happened there.

In defence of politics: "I myself should like to say something in defence of the political parties at Congress," stated Mil-

er, "since political activity is not necessarily bad—in fact it is, in the majority of cases a good thing. Of course there are bad politicians just as there are bad non-political groups. I found that these so-called apolitical organisations were just as eager to lobby and fight for concessions as were the political factions. Good politics can do no harm."

Miller asserted that, despite the politicking, much had been achieved by the gathering together in one place of people from so many different countries.

Tribute to Tchlenow: During the evening, tribute was paid to the memory of the pioneer Zionist, Dr. Jechiel Tchlenow, whose remains were recently taken from London to Israel for reinterment.

The remains of Tchlenow, who died in this country in 1918, were reinterred in the Tel Aviv cemetery, near the grave of Saul Tchernikowsky. The ceremony was attended by a representative of the President and Cabinet Ministers.

MOSCOW: "CONGRESS OF DIFFERENCES"

DELEGATES TERMED "SERVANTS AND HIRELINGS"

Moscow has invented a title for the Zionist Congress just concluded. It is the "Congress of Differences."

In an Arabic-language comment broadcast on Saturday, Moscow said: "The 25th Zionist Congress in Israel has ended. The representatives of Zionist organisations and parties from all over the world took part. This Congress differed very little from previous ones.

"The U.S. Zionist representatives and Israeli militarists, as usual, played an important part in it. But this Congress, unlike other similar gatherings, could be called the Congress of Differences. It is worth mentioning that no practical agreement was reached by it on any of the political, ideological, planning and financial questions it considered. Because of disagreement among the representatives it was not possible to elect an administrative committee."

"Base attacks": "But it is worth noting that the participants in the Congress were unanimous on one question, and that was their base attacks on the Soviet Union and the Arab countries. They passed a special resolution reflecting an aggressive, slanderous campaign against the Soviet Union and the Arabs.

"It is not, however, strange that such a resolution should be adopted, because it is a known fact that the Zionists are the loyal servants of the U.S. imperialists. Servants and hirelings usually slander those slandered by their masters."

LETTERS

ZIONISM FOR SUBURBIA

Sir.—Your comment on my letter in your issue of Jan. 6 calls for a brief rejoinder.

Asked to explain how it would contribute to the normalisation of Diaspora Jewry if every Jew throughout the world were able and were encouraged to acquire Israeli citizenship, you say that "in a way the same thing has happened to the Irish, the Swiss and to some extent the British." You ignore the vast difference between retaining one's citizenship after changing one's domicile, and changing one's citizenship while retaining one's domicile. If, however, it is admitted, in spite of that flaw in your argument, that the two cases are "in a way" analogous, you seem to me to give away your case: for, though there are always people who live outside the countries in which they were born, and among them are some who stick to their original citizenship, it cannot be contended that in any *normal nation* these amount to more than a tiny percentage of its total citizen roll. If, therefore, an attempt to encourage "every Jew" to become a citizen of Israel were made, and met with any significant response, the result would be not to wipe out, but to intensify, the abnormality of Diaspora Jewry.

Leon Simon

Briardale Gardens, N.W.3.

MIKARDO ON WAGES

Sir.—Your contributor Yohanan Ramati, who wrote in your issue of Jan. 6 on wage claims in Israel, is strangely ignorant of some of the factors which enter into wage bargaining and wage fixing in technically progressive industries.

He dismisses the basis of the Histadrut claim as "essentially incorrect" because "the major part of the increases in productivity achieved in Israel has been due to new investments in machinery and equipment, which have raised the output per worker without additional effort on the latter's part."

That's true, of course—but it's true not merely of Israel, but of every industrial country without exception. Indeed, any other assumption could be based only on the belief that the workers have been slackening in the past and have only just started to work properly. If Mr. Ramati's ideas are put into effect, the only workers who would ever be rewarded with a rise are those who have in the past been making sub-standard efforts and only now begin to make a full effort. And even they, having now reached the limit of their effort, could never get another rise, no matter how great the increase in the living-standards of the rest of the community!

In practice, it is universally recognised in industrial societies that the installation of

new and improved (and generally faster) machinery imposes considerably increased strains on workers and therefore justifies higher wages. The operation of these machines requires the worker to have more knowledge, to use more skill and more dexterity, and in some cases to work faster. It also puts more responsibility on him, because the cost of errors on modern equipment—in respect of both the machine and the product—is much greater than with less up-to-date machinery.

In Great Britain, the U.S.A. and other industrial countries, the operation of new and improved equipment is often put forward by trades unions as the basis of a wage claim and accepted by employers' organisations as a valid basis. The terms used by the Histadrut, to which Mr. Ramati takes exception, are almost identical with those used as part of the basis of a recent wage claim by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, which was conceded (though with some quantitative variations) by the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation.

Why should Israel industry be different? *Mah nishtanah?*

Ian Mikardo

Bridge Street, S.W.1.

ISRAEL'S RECORD

Sir.—When Mr. Biggs-Davison, M.P. says of Israel's anti-colonialist struggle, that historically it is "bunkum," he ignores the true facts.

In 1939 Ben-Gurion, as Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, said that Zionists "will fight the (Macdonald) White Paper as if there were no war, and the war as if there were no White Paper." This was the fight against all forms of imperialism. The three years immediately preceding the birth of Israel saw the climax of a bitter struggle against the Mandatory Power.

As for "European Colonialism" creating the modern nation-states, Mr. Biggs-Davison overlooks the fact that Japan and Thailand in Asia, and Abyssinia in Africa, evolved politically to statehood while maintaining complete independence from any European power. It is therefore hypothetical to argue that other Asian and African societies could not have done likewise.

P. S. Gourgey

Richmond Road,
Twickenham, Middx.

The Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland

LONDON REGIONAL CONFERENCES

East, North and South London.

Sunday, 22nd January, 1961 at 2.15 p.m.

Clapton Synagogue, 47 Lea Bridge Road, E.5

Chairmen: First Session: Miss B. J. Barwell.

Second Session: Mr. Maurice Cohen.

Speakers: Mr. Woolf Perry; Mr. Donald Silk;

Mr. Sidney L. Shipton; Mr. G. Gelberg;

Dr. S. A. Miller.

Chairmen: First Session: Mrs. Ella Frankel.

Second Session: Mr. Harold Miller.

North-West and West London.

Sunday 29th January, 1961, at 2.15 p.m.

Zion House Hampstead, 57 Eton Ave., N.W.3

Chairmen: First Session: Mrs. Ella Frankel.

Second Session: Mr. Harold Miller.

Discussion on "Israel in the Community".



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ISRAELI ENTERPRISE

A Jewish Observer — Israel Periodicals Panorama

SHEEPISH LOOK FOR ISRAEL'S CHEESE

AWASSI BEST FOR MILK AND MEAT

from a special correspondent

Tel Aviv:

In 1944, Palestine had 244,000 sheep and 325,000 goats, but during the War of Independence, most of the Arab-owned flocks and herds were taken across the borders, and by 1949, there remained only 39,000 sheep and 70,000 goats in the whole of Israel.

The indigenous sheep here belong to the Awassi breed, a fat-tailed species found all over Asia Minor. There are references to them on ancient Assyrian monuments, and Herodotus mentions them as being found in Arabia.

Awassis are today also found in Jordan, Syria, Iraq and the Lebanon. The name is supposed to derive from the Beduin Awass tribe who live in the Euphrates region. Awassi sheep are white with brown heads and legs and large, drooping ears. The brown colour of the head is often broken by white markings.

Five times as many: They are strong and fully acclimatised to the region, capable of enduring intense summer heat and heavy winter rainfall. When Israeli farmers decided to restock their sheep farms, they naturally turned to the Awassi.

The number of sheep has risen from the 1949 figure of 39,000 to some 210,000 —110,000 belonging to Jewish farmers and 100,000 to Arabs. This has been achieved partly by natural increase and by raising the greatest possible number of female lambs, and partly by large-scale imports, mainly from Turkey, where a fat-tailed sheep, the Hirik, bears a close resemblance to the Israel-bred Awassi.

Israeli farmers have improved their flocks, as well as increased them. Under the guidance of Dr. Moshe Finci, who immigrated to Israel from Cyprus, where he had been a sheep breeder since leaving Yugoslavia, Israel's farmers are today raising a breed known as the Improved Awassi.

Individual attention: While an Awassi's normal milk production is 90-130 lbs. per year, the Improved Awassi today yields an average of 660 lbs. annually. In the best flocks, the maximum yield is well above even this high figure—1,760 lbs., while the "Sheep of the Year" produced over 2,200 lbs. last year.

This remarkable progress has been achieved by Dr. Finci and his assistants through controlled feeding, careful selec-

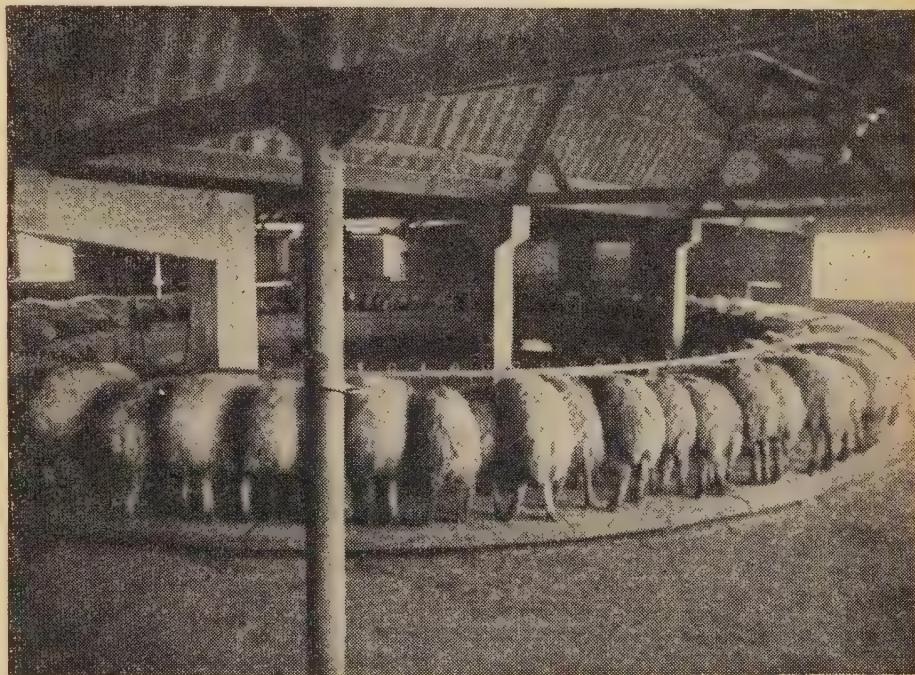
tion, exceedingly highly developed hygienic control and what amounts to individual attention to each sheep, made possible by carefully kept card-indexes recording details of every animal.

Dr. Finci revealed that Improved Awassi are today almost equally divided among kibbutz-owned flocks, concentrating on milk production, and small flocks

mers to let the lambs suck the ewes dry and then feed them up to an average weight of 110 lbs., when they can be sold most profitably for meat.

Lamb and mutton sell at about half the price of locally raised beef, and are the small farmer's principal source of income. Apart from being much cheaper, they are also strong favourites with a steadily growing number of the population. To immigrants from the Balkans and North Africa, for instance, meat is almost synonymous with lamb and mutton.

In the kibbutzim, on the other hand, with their larger flocks, Awassis are kept for their milk, and the yield is constantly increasing. Last year's production of 1,760,000 gallons of sheep's milk was still



A TASTE OF BRINZA IN THE BLINTZE?
Sheep such as these are the backbone of Israel's cheese industry

of about fifteen sheep belonging to many different settlers in new moshavim.

Bred for meat: The small, privately owned flocks are not usually kept for milk because of mechanised milking and transport problems. Dr. Finci's section in the Ministry of Agriculture, advises far-

inadequate to meet the demand.

Ideal for cheese: Since the fat content of the Improved Awassi's milk is twice that of cow's milk, it is ideally suited to cheese production. A salted white cheese of the Brinza type, which needs neither maturing nor storage, and is most popu-

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lar among Balkan and Oriental Jews, takes about 50 per cent of the sheep's milk produced in Israel.

Other sheep's milk cheeses popular here are *Gilad*, a type of *Catchaval*, and *Galil*, a blue-mould cheese, which is also exported to the U.S.A. "There is no question of over-supply," Dr. Finci said. "The demand, both here and abroad, far outruns our present productive capacity."

COUNTRY LOSING FOREIGN CURRENCY RESTITUTION EXCHANGE RATE TOO LOW

from our own correspondent

Tel Aviv :

One of the country's most important sources of foreign currency is private restitution. Income from this source in 1960-1961 had been estimated at \$78 million, but actually reached \$120 million. Even then, this represents in effect only 50 per cent of the private restitution received by Israel citizens. The remaining 50 per cent is lost to the Israel Treasury, because it does not come into the country.

Many Israelis of German origin have not transferred substantial amounts because of what they consider to be the unjustifiably low rate of exchange they receive for their Deutschmarks. While exporters receive up to £4 per dollar, recipients of private restitution receive at best an average of £2.23.

In contrast with what it costs to promote exports and foreign investment, or to raise funds through Bond sales and the U.J.A., the foreign currency brought into the country by recipients of private restitution does not cost the state a single penny. Despite this, restitution recipients are, they say, penalised by a most unfavourable rate of exchange.

Discontent increases : In any case, recipients of private restitution receive only a small part of their former assets, because of the post-war revaluation of the mark. In addition, they lose approximately 20 per cent in legal fees.

The regulations under which recipients receive their own money at the present rate of exchange date back to 1957, when the purchasing power of the Israeli pound was considerably higher than it is today. The result is that the actual value received stands even lower than it did at the time the regulations came into force.

Discontent among recipients of private restitution — who number at least a quarter of a million in Israel alone — has been further heightened by the fact

that tourists to Israel today receive £3 for each dollar.

Treasury would gain : The Treasury does not differentiate between gifts and private property returned to victims of Nazism after 25 years. The Treasury argues that a higher rate of exchange would mean an additional budget allocation of £50 million, which would have to be raised by taxes levied on the entire population, while recipients of restitution constitute only a minority.

Those receiving restitution claim that, if they were to receive a better rate of exchange, the Treasury in turn, would obtain at least an additional \$100 million per annum from this source.

The negative attitude on the part of the Treasury, they say, not only leaves an average of \$80-100 million each year outside the country, but renders part of the population positively hostile to the State.

Still a lot owing : In this connection, it should be mentioned that a large percentage of recent emigrants from Israel left the country because of the low rate of exchange they were getting for their private restitution payments. 400-500 Deutschmarks a month is enough for a modest existence in Germany or some other European countries, but the equivalent £200-£250 is quite insufficient for living in Israel.

Leading financial experts here always stress that both reparations and private restitution are due to finish soon. The fact nevertheless remains that, according to official statements from Bonn, West Germany still owes Nazi victims 8.2 billion D.M.

According to Bonn, one third of this sum is payable to Israelis, so the Treasury could count on a potential income of at least \$500 million from this source alone — a sum which would constitute a considerable part of the country's foreign currency budget during the next few years.

Money will stay abroad : However, unless the demands for what restitution recipients consider a realistic rate of exchange are met, a large part of this sum, instead of aiding in the development of Israel, will remain abroad and help to strengthen the economies of foreign countries.

To date, \$276 million has entered Israel in the form of private restitution. Approximately the same amount has been lost to the Treasury at the same time.

ISRAELI ENTERPRISE is prepared by the Jewish Observer—Israel Periodicals, 13 Montefiore Street, Tel Aviv. Phone: 65882 and 63303.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, January 21

THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL of the Zionist Federation and the Hon. Officers of the Ilford Federation Synagogue invite all to a *M'lava Malka*, at Amelia Moscow Hall, 16 Coventry Road, Ilford, Essex. Speaker: Dr. Y. J. Maitlis. Mr. Oscar Weinberg will render musical items. In the Chair: Rev. I. Nodel, Minister of the Congregation. No Appeal. Admission Free. Refreshments. 7.30 p.m.

MAPAM OPEN FORUM. 37 Broadhurst Gardens, N.W.6. Mr. S. S. Silverman, M.P. and Mr. A. Schenker (U.S.A.), members of Mapam delegation, will report on the 25th Zionist Congress. All welcome. 8 p.m.

ILFORD Z.S. 22 Holcombe Road, Ilford (by courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. S. Lance). Social in aid of Zikim. 8 p.m.

Sunday, January 22

ZIONIST FEDERATION EAST, NORTH & SOUTH LONDON REGIONAL CONFERENCE. Clapton Synagogue, 47 Lee Bridge Road, E.5. 2.15 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24

MUSWELL HILL Z.S. 109 Brim Hill, N.2 (by courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Compton Harvey). Brains Trust. 8 p.m.

Wednesday, January 25

S.W. LONDON Z.S. 13a Thurleigh Road, Balham, S.W.12 (by courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. E. Newman). Film Show. 8.15 p.m.

Thursday, January 26

P.A.T.W.A. ASSOCIATION, Professional and Technical Workers Aliyah, Dr. I. Doron, Chief Medical Officer of Kupat Holim, Beersheba, will speak on: "Doctors and Medical Services in the Negev." Hillel House, 1 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1. All welcome. 8 p.m.

HENDON Z.S. Sol Cohen Hall, Raleigh Close, N.W.4. "Impressions of the 25th Zionist Congress" by Mr. Sidney L. Shipton 8.15 p.m.

WIZO, Belsize Park, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3. Israeli Film Show. 8 p.m.

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NEW BEGINNERS' ULPAN COURSE in Modern Hebrew, at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3. Mondays and Tuesdays 8.30-10 p.m. Also Lower Intermediate Mondays and Tuesdays 7-8.30 p.m. Intermediate Tuesdays 8-10 p.m. Fee £1 per month. Special emphasis on Conversational Hebrew — arranged by Jewish Agency.

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JEWISH CULTURAL SOCIETY, 2 Bloomsbury Place, London, W.C.1. Telephone: MUSEum 4702/3, cordially invites you to the Besht-Academy on the occasion of the 200th Anniversary of Rabbi Israel Baal-Shem-Tov (the founder of Chassidism) on Sunday, February 5th, at the Cora Hotel, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1. Programme: Literary Part: DR. S. LEVENBERG, MR. ZEEV BILU, M.A. (Jerusalem), CHARLES S. KLINGER. Artistic Part: The Rev. SIMON HASS, L.L.C.M. (well-known Chazan, Chassidic Songs and Melodies), MISS TOVA BEN-TSVI (from "Kol Zion" Jerusalem), URI HALFON (Tel Aviv), Hebrew and Chassidic Music and Folk Songs (accordeon). Chairman: I. JEZIERSKI. 7.30 for 8 p.m. Admission: By prior reservation only. Tickets: £1 1s., 12/6 and 7/6.

BROADCASTS FROM ISRAEL

Fri. 20th January : 20.15 The News. 20.25 Our Correspondent Reports. 20.30 Sabbath Programme.

Sat. 21st January : 20.15 The News. 20.25 Editorial Opinion. 20.35 Cantorial Music.

Sun. 22nd January : 20.15 The News. 20.25 Heritage: The Jews of Holland. 20.40 In the Jewish World.

Mon. 23rd January : 20.15 The News. 20.25 Newsreel. 20.30 Israel Stars of Song: Sharona Aron.

Tues. 24th January : 20.15 The News. 20.25 Commentary. 20.30 Tel Aviv's Little Theatre presents "The Boy Friend".

Wed. 25th January : 20.15 The News. 20.25 Investment in Israel: The American-Israeli Paper Mills. 20.35 Songs of Israel's Fishermen.

Thurs. 26th January : 20.15 The News. 20.25 The Lively Arts: A monthly Magazine Programme. 20.35 Easy Hebrew Conversation, with Yehuda Goodman.

JPA-JNF NEWS

Prepared by JPA/JNF Public Relations Department, Furnival House, 14 High Holborn, W.C.1. Chancery 5986/7

THE LINE-UP FOR 1961: MORE ABOUT THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN SPEAKERS

Further details have just been released concerning the panel of speakers due to arrive in London from February onwards. Undoubtedly this group constitutes one of the strongest teams sent to this country by Israel for any J.P.A. campaign, and embraces leading personalities in widely-varying fields.

The long road: Among them is Dr. Aryeh Nesher, whose personal story of aliyah out of Bukovina in 1941 would make an exciting book in itself. Actually, it took him seven years to reach Israel, by way of Chernowitz, Poland, Germany and Marseilles. In between there was the Nazi occupation of Rumania, the Russian drive through south-east Europe, the organisation of D.P.'s and the Bevin period.

Dr. Nesher was stranded in Germany in 1944 during his circuitous road to Palestine. He stayed for three years, first to organise the Jews in the D.P. camps as a kind of "foreign minister" that brought him into close contact with the American army and UNRRA headquarters in Munich. At this time he performed a number of missions in Switzerland, France and the U.S.A. With the end of the war, Dr. Nesher took advantage of his sojourn in Germany by continuing his studies and gaining a doctorate at the University of Munich. He read political and social science.



Gershon Avner

While still in Germany, Dr. Nesher enlisted in Haganah. The year was 1948, and as Israel declared her independence, he reached the rank of captain and was given the responsibility of national education officer for recruits from abroad.

Man-power expert: With this as his starting point, Dr. Nesher assumed posts of high distinction in free Israel. These were mainly concerned with man-power problems, productivity in labour and new-town development. He was attached for some time to the Prime Minister's office, and at other times to the Ministry of Labour. He has also acted as a consultant to private industry.

Appointed in 1955 to a lectureship in law and economics at the new University of Tel-Aviv, Dr. Nesher was responsible for a number of important surveys in the field of labour relations. He is the author of a book, "The Human Factor in Enterprise," and has undertaken four lecture-tours of the United States and Canada.

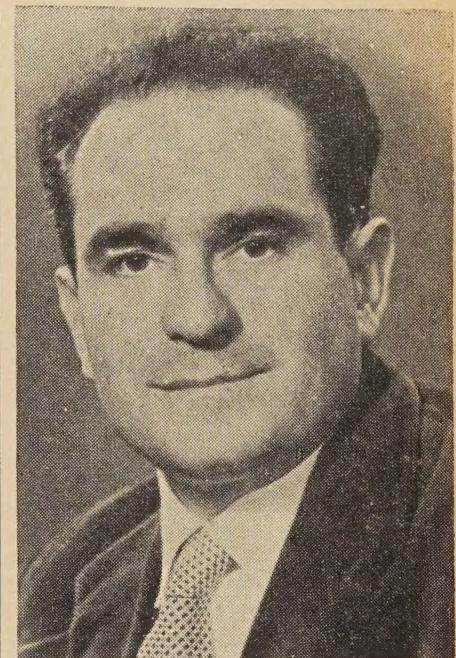
AVNER NEARS THE TOP

Gershon Avner, the announcement of whose J.P.A. tour has been greeted enthusiastically, is of course becoming one of Israel's top-ranking career diplomats. He earned a reputation in England for being sharp as a whip, fast-thinking and a brilliant speaker.

Now the head of the American Division of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Avner has spent his entire adult life in the twin struggles for Israel's birth and Israel's survival. He served as Jewish Agency spokesman in Jerusalem in the years before independence and was subsequently head of the Foreign Ministry's West European Division, Chargé d'Affaires in Budapest and Sofia, and latterly Counsellor at the London Embassy.

Talked to Russians: Gershon Avner has played an important role in the drama which has surrounded Israel in recent years. As Chargé d'Affaires in Sofia, he negotiated the resumption of Israel-Soviet relations after the Russians withdrew their Ambassador in 1953. Previously, he had been at the Hague Conference which led to the reparations agreement with Germany. And he was in charge of Israel's Embassy in London at the time of Sinai.

Avner was born in Berlin in 1919, of a family which pulled up roots and settled



Dr. Aryeh Nesher

in Haifa in 1930. Gershon's father had always been drawn to Palestine and he felt that the political situation in Germany was going from bad to worse and that the time had come to leave.

Police duties: The years of trouble and uncertainty had already arrived, and Gershon joined Haganah at the age of 16. A year later the Arab riots struck, and the youth did his guard duty at night in the outlying and isolated Jewish areas on Mount Carmel. Later he joined the Jewish Supplementary Police, with the job of guarding farm settlements.

Continuing his studies in Britain in 1938, Avner had a distinguished career at Oxford, where he became President of the Union. He made the problems of Palestine and Zionism the subject of his presidential speech. Next came work in the political department of the Jewish Agency in London, to be followed by service in Jerusalem in 1946 as liaison officer with the foreign press, a post he took over from Walter Eytan, now Israel Ambassador to France. As a result of the 1948 explosion in the Jewish Agency building, he sustained severe eye injuries.

At Palace Green: The success which Gershon Avner made of his years at Palace Green is recalled today by both the Jewish and the general community. For he is as accomplished round the conference table as he is on the platform, and whether the occasion was a visit to the

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Foreign Office or an after-dinner speech at the Dorchester, Avner was forthright, brief, and absolutely relevant. His first engagement in London will be on February 25.

SOLO FLIGHT TO CONGRESS

Since we announced last week the visit to this country of Israel's Air Force commander for the Grosvenor House dinner and major provincial events, many of his friends in London have been recalling some of the incidents in this 35-year-old aviator's remarkable youth. There was the day in 1946, for example, when he arrived in Basle for the Zionist Congress flying a small aircraft. Many delegates thought this to be an act of eccentricity, but he had done it to emphasise the importance of air power to the future Jewish State.

An arrest in Tel-Aviv: Ezer Weizmann was one of the nine pilots to make up the first Haganah air formation. He was arrested on his return to Tel-Aviv airport during the British occupation after an operational flight to aid the settlers in the ill-fated Etzion bloc, though he was released a few days later. Once he took up a grounded Egyptian aircraft and flew it to Tel-Aviv.

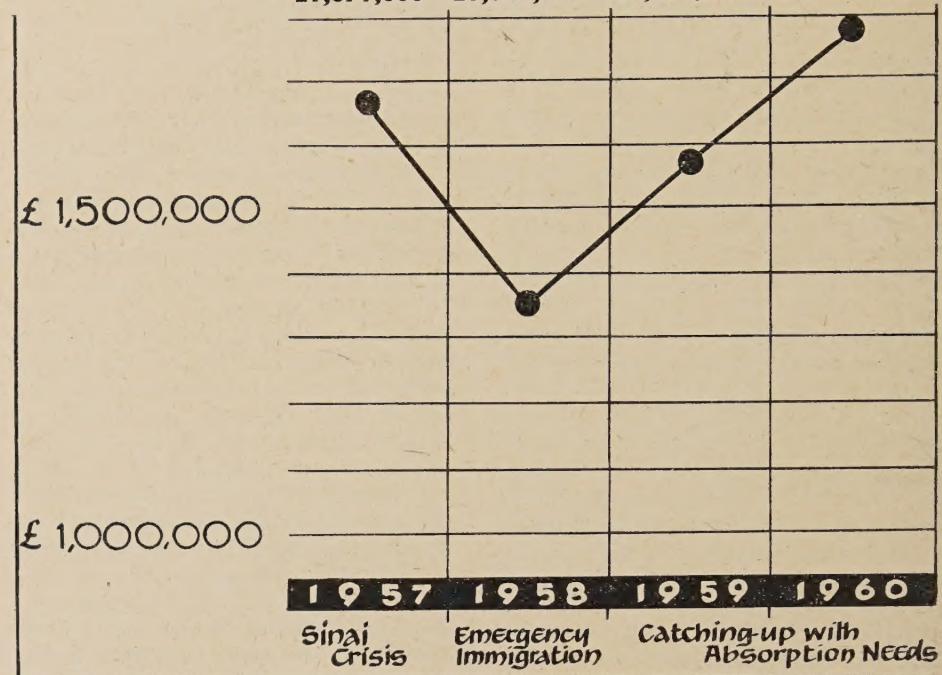
He was one of the first to pilot a French Ouragan, but at 35 a pilot is getting rather old for modern jets. Even so, Weizmann still gets into the air whenever he has the chance.



Major-General Weizmann
—from the airfield to the platform.

THE TREND IN J.P.A. GIVING

£1,671,000 £1,343,000 £1,573,000 £1,779,000



THIS WEEK'S BEST BOXES

N. LONDON: Mr. Gilbert, Brenner Sports, Barretts Grove, N.16, £13.2.3. Mrs. Birnbaum, 174 Kyverdale Road, N.16, £4.8.6. Mr. Leff, 34 Waterfall Road, N.11, £2.16.9. Mrs. S. Murray, 139 Kyverdale Road, N.16, £2.6.6. Mr. Gordon, 36 Oldhill Street, N.16, £2.2.0. Mr. I. Nagioff, 15 Oak Way, N.14, £2.0.0. Mr. Sheff, 23 Palatine Road, N.16, £2.0.0.

E. LONDON: R. Goodman Ltd., 2 Swanfield Street, E.2, £2.0.6. Mr. H. Alpert, 134c Kingsland Road, E.2, £2.0.0.

W. LONDON: Mr. Muller, Flat 20, Caroline House, Bayswater Road, W.2, £23.15.0. Dr. Lasnick, 42 Cleveland Road, W.7, £6.16.0. Mr. Froomberg, 14 Grosvenor Court Mansions, Edgware Road, W.2, £5.10.3. Mr. Veiner, 64 Forset Court, Edgware Road, W.2, £3.1.0. Mrs. Webber, 113 Gloucester Terrace, W.2, £2.18.3. Mr. Marx, 22 Gilroy House, Gloucester Terrace, W.2, £2.10.0. Misses Schlesinger, 4 Mount Park Crescent, W.5, £2.6.0. Rabbi Spiro, 10 Hanger Court, W.5, £2.4.9. Mr. M. Katz, 45 Park West, Edgware Road, W.2, £2.2.6. Mrs. Davis, 73 Brunswick Road, Hanger Hill, W.5, £2.2.3. Mr. O. Deutch, 84 Drayton Bridge Road, W.7, £2.2.0. Mr. E. Mintz, 52 Albion Gate, Bayswater Road, W.2, £2.0.0. Mr. Herman, 42 Albion Street, Bayswater Road, W.2, £2.0.0. Mr. A. Elton, 8 Porchester Gate, Bayswater Road, W.2, £2.0.0.

N.W. LONDON: Mr. and Mrs. B. Rothberg, 1 St. Georges Close, N.W.11, £3.14.0. Mr. and Mrs. C. Baderman, 43 Cranbourne Gardens, N.W.11, £3.1.6. Mr. I. Bines, 787 Finchley Road, N.W.11, £2.15.6. Mrs. Black, 99 Wentworth Road, N.W.11, £2.10.0.

COCKFOSTERS: Mrs. Lennard, 15 Freston Gardens, £2.2.6.

EDGWARE: Mr. Erlick, End House, Donnefield Avenue, Canons Park, £2.0.0.

BRIDLINGTON: Mrs. L. Shamash, 19 Esplanade, £5.15.0.

GLASGOW: Dr. E. Cowan, 6 Woodlands Crescent, Thornliebank, £8.15.0. Mrs. J. Shulman, 4 Mulberry Road, Giffnock, £4.16.0. Mrs. L. Mair, 20 Woodlands Road, Thornliebank, £4.15.0. Mrs. D. Levine, 2 Monreith Road, Giffnock, £3.10.0. Mr. and Mrs. G. Jesner, 41 Braeholm Road, Giffnock, £3.2.0. Mr. J. Miller, 7 Callerwood Road, S.3, £3.0.0. Dr. D. Salmon, 3 Carlaverock Road, S.3, £3.0.0. Mrs. M. Simons, 18 Carlton Drive, Giffnock, £2.12.0. Mrs. R. Haase, c/o Ewington Hotel, Queens Drive, S.1, £2.12.0. Mr. S. Cina, 9 Norbreck Drive, Giffnock, £2.12.0. Mrs. D. Mattock, 212 Ayr Road, Newton Mearns, £2.12.0. Mrs. L. Jesner, Ad Gowal, Douglas Avenue, Giffnock, £2.6.0. Mrs. I. Jesner, Davenu, Douglas Avenue, Giffnock, £2.3.0. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Benson, 21 Norbreck Drive, £2.2.0. Mrs. P. Samuel,

1. Ravenstone Drive, Giffnock, £2.0.0. Mr. D. N. Links, Tikva, 43 Carlaverock Road, Newlands, £2.0.0.
FALKIRK: Mr. L. Block, 65 Dalderse Avenue, £4.0.0.

LIVERPOOL EVENTS

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Liverpool, Ald. J. Leslie Hughes and Mrs. J. O. Neill, were present at the 9th Blue and White Ball of the Liverpool J.N.F. Functions committee at the Adelphi Hotel. A group of "debutantes" were presented to the Lord Mayor, and the evening's programme included a fur fashion show.

Another guest of honour was the president of the J.N.F., who gave a brief talk congratulating Liverpool J.N.F. workers on their constant support of Israel. A sum of £2,800 was raised, part of which came from the souvenir brochure and a fine tombola stand.

The chairman of Liverpool J.N.F. Functions committee is Berl Rosenblatt, and a social evening organised by this group, which took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Rosenblatt, realised £600.

* * *

A supper and ball organised by the Catford and Bromley Districts Combined Charities at the end of the year resulted in nearly £400 being raised.

Among the organisations which benefited was the J.P.A., which received £100.

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ANOTHER ROYAL PREMIERE

As already announced in the general press, the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the world première of Dmitri de Grunwald's new film "Mr. Topaze," which takes place on Monday, March 20, in support of the Jewish National Fund and the National Playing Fields Association.

The film stars Peter Sellers, (who also directs), and Nadia Gray; and a large gathering of top names of stage and screen, as well as other personalities of many fields, turned up at the Dorchester on Monday evening to launch the souvenir brochure and begin filling the seats at the Carlton, Haymarket, where the première is to take place.

Joint presidents of the event are Mrs. Isaac Wolfson and Lord Luke, who, it will be recalled, led the highly successful effort for the Palladium midnight matinée in October, 1959, which also saw the attendance and close personal interest of the Duke.

It looks very much as though this time the committee will do even better than on that occasion, when £28,000 was raised for the two causes. J.N.F. president Rosser Chinn, who combined the duties of space and ticket salesman on Monday, said they were after £30,000. Within half an hour he had secured half this figure in promises.

Lord Luke, who presided, summed up the work of the J.N.F. in this pithy formula: "It aims to give people who now exist the right to live." Mr. Chinn accepted the compliment to his organisation with a graceful tribute to the National Playing Fields Association. "More opportunities for healthy open-air sport," he said, "is the way to stop juvenile delinquency."

Mr. de Grunwald spoke about the film, and Mrs. Wolfson told the gathering how glad they all were to be "together again", while Isaac Wolfson rounded the proceedings off with thanks to the joint committee.

LADIES FOR GOLF

For the first time there will be a Ladies section in the J.N.F. Golf championships this year, with the finals at Potters Bar Golf Club in July.

The following committee is responsible for organisation: Mrs. B. Bernstein, chairman; Mrs. M. Wexler, treasurer; and Mrs. T. Angel, hon. secretary.



At the Dorchester launching of the Royal Premiere. Reading downwards are Lady Violet Bonham-Carter with producer Dmitri de Grunwald; Mrs. Isaac Wolfson with Major Alfred Huskisson and Capt. Roy Harry; Sidney Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Goldstein and Mrs. Ruth Shaerf; and Mr. and Mrs. John Spencer-Churchill.

FOOD TRADE PLANS NEW EFFORT

S. F. Weldon has been elected chairman of the Food Trade J.P.A. committee in succession to Maurice Wick, who now becomes vice-president.

The election took place at a recent meeting, held at 47 Baker Street, when the results of the 1960 campaign were reviewed and plans formulated for the coming year's effort. A sum of £15,000 had been raised last year, and particularly gratifying was the fact reported that every pledge had been promptly paid.

The new chairman complimented Mr. Wick on his efforts in the past, and declared that he would dedicate himself to maintaining the high standard set by his predecessor. Mr. Wick himself had only recently returned from Israel, and he was able to inform the committee of the work being done there with J.P.A. funds.

The new effort of the Food Trade is to be inaugurated at a dinner to take place at the Savoy Hotel on Sunday, March 12, with Gershon Avner as the guest speaker and Nathan Goldenberg, who had so successfully conducted the appeal last year, as the appeal-maker once more.

A decision was also taken at the meeting to augment the group's effort with the publication of a Food Trade brochure. This would give members an opportunity to canvass a still larger number of their colleagues.

Charles Goldrei who, with his wife, will be the host at the dinner, was re-elected president, and the other officers are as follows: vice-president, M. Wick; chairman, S. F. Weldon; vice-chairmen, L. Gurwitsch, A. Kraus; treasurer, B. Bard.

WINS SHIELD

Hanoar Hatzioni has been awarded the Youth Shield this year for its contribution to J.N.F. work.

The shield goes annually to the youth movement fulfilling the highest percentage of its yearly target, and it was presented by Moshe Davis at the national winter camp of the organisation earlier this month.

BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

In view of the large number of last-minute applications, the executive of the J.N.F. Bridge Tournament has decided to postpone final date for entry forms until January 31.



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